

DOLGELLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L

H E A L T H R E P O R T

FOR THE YEAR 1956.




MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

EVAN RICHARDS, M.R.C.S., I.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR:

PHILLIP VAUGHAN DAVIES, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

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TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE DOLGELLEY URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL .

Mr Chairman, Mrs Rees and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Health Report for the year ended 31st December 1956.

The General Health of the population remained good, but it is distressing to note that there was a fall of 20 in the population as estimated by the Registrar-General.

The number of Deaths was 6 fewer than in the previous year and there was one more live birth.

Cancer Mortality showed an increase of 2 on 1955, and there were two more deaths from Tuberculosis.

The greater proportion of deaths occurred from diseases of the heart and circulation, and reflects the effect of the rising age of the population in the country generally.

Tuberculosis notifications remained the same but of these there was one more case of the Pulmonary variety and none of the Non-Pulmonary types.

Of infectious diseases there was one case of Paralytic Poliomyelitis notified and one case of infectious eye disease of the new born.

There were no cases of Food Poisoning notified.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

EVAN RICHARDS.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

P.T.O.

GENERAL STATISTICS.SECTION A.

Area of Urban District.	1,127.
Rateable Value (as on 31st March 1957).	£29,318.
Population (Registrar General's figures).	2,490.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.	
(31st March 1957).	£110.3.3.
Number of inhabited houses (according to the rate book) at end of year.	1,015.

Comparability Factors.

Births.	1.02.
Deaths.	0.95.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Nett Births (Live and Still)	37.
Births (Live).	37.
Births (Still).	Nil.

Live Birth Rate per, 1,000 population. 14.86.

Live Births - 37.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total.	20.	17.
Legitimate.	20.	16.
Illegitimate.	Nil.	1.

Illegitimate Birth Rate (Percentage of Total Live Births).... 5.40.

Deaths.

Total Number.	30.	
<u>Males.</u>		<u>Females.</u>
15.		15.

Rate per 1000 population..... 12.05.
1955 Figures..... 14.34.

Deaths of Infants under one year.

Total. 1.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total.	1.	Nil.
Legitimate.	1.	Nil.
Illegitimate.	Nil.	Nil.

Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 Live births).... 27.03.
1955 Figures. 27.78.

Deaths of Legitimate Infants Mortality
(per 1,000 Live births)..... 27.03.

Deaths of Illegitimate Infants Mortality
(per 1,000 live births)..... Nil.

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Total.	1	Nil
Legitimate.	1	Nil
Illegitimate.	Nil.	Nil.

Maternal Mortality.

Deaths connected with childbirth and pregnancy - Nil.

Deaths from Cancer.

Total.	6.
Rate per 1,000 population.	2.40.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Total.	2.
Rate per 1,000 population.	0.08.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1) Public Health Officers of the Authority.

One Medical Officer of Health.
One Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

(2) Laboratory Facilities.

Water and milk samples. - Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth.
Chemical analysis of water - The Public Analyst, Chester.

(3) Ambulance Facilities.

County Council Ambulance Depot situated in Dolgelley.
3 ambulances.

(4) Infant Welfare Clinics.

Held twice monthly at the Wesleyan Chapel Vestry.

(5) Ante Natal Clinics.

Held twice monthly at the Dolgelley Cottage Hospital.

(6) Orthopaedic Clinic.

Held twice monthly at the Dolgelley Cottage Hospital.

(7) Tuberculosis Clinic.

Held twice monthly at the Dolgelley Cottage Hospital.

(8) Diphtheria Immunisation.

Carried out by the County Medical Department.
Babies and young children immunised at Infants' School.

(9) Hospitals

One fully equipped Cottage Hospital.

(10) Infectious Diseases.

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year.

Scarlet Fever	2
Bacillary Dysentery	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil
Measels	Nil
Infantile Paralysis	1
Food poisoning	Nil
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1

TUBERCULOSIS.New Cases.

Pulmonary	Total 3
	<u>Males</u> 2 <u>Females</u> 1.
Non Pulmonary	Total Nil.
	Males Nil Females. Nil

Tuberculosis Deaths.

Pulmonary	Total 2
	Males 2 Females. Nil.
Non Pulmonary	Total Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1956 in age group

Age Periods	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
2								
5								
10								
15	1							
20	1							
25								
35		1						
45								
55								
65					1			
75					1			
Total	2	1			2			

CAUSES OF DEATHS 1956

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis Pulmonary.....	2	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Cancer Stomach	-	1
" Lung	-	-
" Breast	-	-
" Uterus	-	1
" Other sites	1	3
Diabetes,.....	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	-	5
Coronary disease, angina.....	4	-
Hypertension with heart disease.....	-	-
Other heart diseases.....	2	1
Other circulatory disease.....	-	1
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia.....	1	-
Bronchitis.....	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	1	-
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum.....	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	1	-
Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	-
All other accidents.....	1	-
Suicide.....	-	-
Other malignant and llymphatic neoplasms.....	-	-
TOTAL.	15	15

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

No action was found necessary during 1956, but several cases of elderly persons living alone were kept under observation.

HOUSING:

No new Council Houses were erected by the Council during 1956.

Conversion works in connection with the property acquired by the Council in the previous year at Bryntirion were commenced. These works provided three additional units of accommodation.

Housing Act 1949. Section 20, as amended by the Housing Repairs and Pents Act 1954.

Five schemes by private owners ranking for grants under the above Acts were completed during the year and grants were paid totalling £1,109.

All the schemes provided for improvement to existing occupied dwellings. In all five cases grants were made at the rate of 50% of the approved cost.

In November 1956. the Council adopted the following conditions when making future grants under the Acts:

- (i) For works of conversion and improvement which provide an additional unit or units of accommodation - a grant at the rate of 50% of the approved cost to be paid.
- (ii) For works of improvement only, not providing additional unit or units of accommodation - a grant at the rate of 40% of the approved cost to be paid.
- (iii) That in respect of all works the subject of applications for grants, a Bill of Quantities together with the necessary schedules and plans be prepared by an independant architect or surveyor and that competitive tenders be obtained from not less than two Contractors.

Particulars of other action taken.

Defects or nuisances found.	71.
Number abated.	60.
Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal notice.	5.
Defects not abated are due to inherent defects in old premises.	

Proceedings under the Public Health Act.

Statutory Notices served	NIL.
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Proceedings under the Housing Acts.

No. of properties regarding which notices of Time and Place were served under section 11.	1.
Voluntary undertaking not to relet accepted.	1.
Relet subject to repairs and conditions.	-

Housing Management.

The Council's Housing Estates are maintained by direct labour and maintenance works, and painting was carried out during the year as necessary.

The Council have their own Refuse Lorry and staff and twice weekly collections of household refuse continued to be made throughout the year. The Coed Ffridd Arw site is still used for tipping and is capable of providing the required space for many years to come. To prevent animals gaining access to the tip, all the perimeter thereof was fenced.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The Council continued to provide Public Conveniences for both sexes at Cae Marian and a urinal for males only near the County Hall. These are cleansed daily by the Council's staff and part time female help is engaged for the Ladies' Conveniences.

SEWERAGE.

The sewerage system of the town has functioned satisfactorily; during the year certain defects in the sewerage on the Council's Housing site at Ffordd y Felin was discovered and rectified. No trouble has been experienced subsequently.

The main sewers have been periodically inspected and test baited for rodent infestation with negative results.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
Whole Carcasses.	-	-	-	-	Nil.
Part Carcasses.	-	-	-	-	Nil.
Heads.	-	9	-	2.	2.
Organs - various.	-	-	5.	2.	7.
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Diseases:					
Emaciation.	-	-	2	-	2
Abscesses.	-	-	1	-	1.
Extensive bruising.	-	-	-	3	3
Urticaria (Extensive).	-	-	-	-	Nil.
Dropsy.	-	-	-	1	1
Fevered Condition.	-	-	2.	-	2.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938.

The following foods were surrendered, inspected, condemned and removed for destruction during the year:-

219 tins assorted Fruits.	44 tins Evaporated milk.
134. tins assorted vegetables.	6 tins Cream.
66 tins meat.	3 tins Orange Juice.
83 tins fish.	13 tins Soup.
1. jar Mixed Pickles.	
1 tin Mixed Fruit Pudding.	

WATER SUPPLY.

The supply during 1956 has been adequate both in quantity and quality. Supplies were not restricted at any time.

During the year the bulk of the supply for the town was drawn from Llyn Cynwch. The Supplementary Source in the Deer Park was but little used other than to meet covenanted supplies to the Nannau Estate properties.

During the year every precaution was taken against pollution by placing of notice boards, and regular inspection of the Lake and its Catchment area and by frequent bacteriological sampling.

During the year bacteriological samples were taken as follows:

Llyn Cynwch (Source).	22.
Supplementary Source (Deer Park)	22.
Consumer Taps.	22.
Private Supplies .	3.

The chemical analysis of the water as taken during the year was as follows:

Certificate of Analysis.

Sample was received on 27.7.56.

Marked 1. LLYN CYNWCH.



In parts per million of water.-

Total Solid matter in solution.....	60.0.
Nitrogen in Nitrates.	0.25.
Chlorine in Chlorides.....	12.0.
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate.....	
in 4 hours at 80° F.	0.64.
Free and Saline ammonia.....	Nil.
Albuminous ammonia.....	0.04.
Lead, Copper, Zinc.....	Nil.
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment.	Nil.
Temporary Hardness.....	20.0.
Permanent Hardness.....	5.0.
pH. Value.....	6.8.

The above chemical analysis is satisfactory.

(Signed) HAROLD LOWE M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Public Analyst.

14th August 1956.

During the year regular inspection and testing of mains took place with a view to detecting leakages; in general the mains are free from leakage but a large number of leaks on service pipes were detected; these were rectified by the Council or by the Owners as appropriate in each case.

MILK SUPPLY.

Dealers licenced to sell T.T.milk.	1.
Persons licenced to carry on the trade of milk retailers.	2.

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

Manufacturing Retailers registered .	Nil.
No of Retailers.	5.

RODENT CONTROL (12 months ending 31st March 1957).

No of properties inspected:

Local Authority.	6.)	
Dwelling houses.(inc.Council Hse)	251.)	
All other(including business Prem)	79.)	343.
Agricultural.	7.)	

No.of properties found infested.	137.
Treated by Local Authority.....	137.
Notices served under section 4.....	-.
No. of block control schemes carried out.....	6.

FACTORIES.

No of premises registered under the Factories Act.....	51.
No inspected re cleanliness.	19.
No inspected re sanitary cleanliness.....	15.
No inspected re: means of escape in case of fire.....	5.
Defects found.	Nil.
Defects remedied.....	Nil.